

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
Takehiro FUKAMI et al. : Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH
Serial No. NEW : Docket No. 2002_0355
Filed March 8, 2002 :
NOVEL SPIRO COMPOUNDS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, immediately after the title, please insert:

This application is a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 09/983,598 filed October 25, 2001, which is a divisional of Serial No. 09/640,784 filed August 18, 2000, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,326,375.

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel without prejudice claims 22, 27, 32, 35 and 39.

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to reflect the status of the parent applications.

Certain claims are cancelled without prejudice.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made**".

Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Novel Spiro Compounds

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

✓ This Application is a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 09/983,598 filed October 25, 2001, which is a divisional of Serial No. 09/640,784 filed August 18, 2000, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,326,375.

5 1. Field of the Invention

The present invention is useful in medical fields.

In more detail, novel spiro compounds of this invention are useful as neuropeptide Y receptor antagonists and as agents for the treatment of various kinds of cardiovascular disorders, central nervous system disorders, metabolic diseases, and the like.

2. Description of the Prior Art

Neuropeptide Y (hereinafter referred to as NPY), a peptide consisting of 36 amino acids, was first isolated from porcine brain by Tatemoto et al. in 1982 [Nature, 296: 659 (1982)]. NPY is widely distributed in central nervous system and peripheral nervous system and plays various roles as one of the most abundant peptide in the nervous system. That is, NPY acts as an orexigenic substance in the central nervous system and markedly promotes fat accumulation via the mediation of the secretion of various hormones or the action of the nervous system. It is known that the continuous intracerebroventricular administration of NPY induces obesity and insulin resistance based on these actions (International Journal of Obesity, vol.19: 517 (1995); Endocrinology, vol.133: 1753 (1993)). It is also known that NPY has central effects, such as depression, anxiety, schizophrenia, pain, dementia and the like (Drugs, vol. 52, 371(1996). Further, in the periphery, NPY coexists with